

IN THE DRAWINGS:

One replacement sheet for Fig. 2 is submitted herewith.

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 7 and the figures. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to the claims and figures are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. Accordingly, the Office Action will be discussed in terms of the claims and figures as amended.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings stating that the reference numeral 21 is not included. Submitted herewith is a replacement sheet for Fig. 2 which includes the reference numeral or sign 21. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw his objection.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 and 9 under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Satoh et al., stating that Satoh et al. discloses an electric shaver comprising a cutter frame, an outer cutter provided in the cutter frame, said outer cutter including a shaving surface having hair introduction openings, a side wall formed in continuous to said shaving surface and corner slits formed in the side wall so as to communicate with the hair introduction openings, an inner cutter that makes sliding contact with an inside surface of the shaving surface of the outer cutter, and at least one upright member 22 in Fig. 15 which is provided between the side wall and side end surfaces of said inner cutter bodies that face said side wall and is in an upright attitude.

Applicant has carefully reviewed Satoh et al. and respectfully submits that in Satoh et al., the element 22 in Fig. 15 is rotated together with the inner cutter and is provided partially in the circumferential direction (see col. 9, lines 6-12 and Fig. 17 wherein α represents the end surface of the element 22). In contrast thereto, in Applicant's invention the upright member, elements 31 and 38, do not rotate, are ring shaped and are circumferentially continuous. Still further, in Satoh et al. the object of element 22 which rotates together with the inner cutter is to pull hair coming into the slits by holding it with the blades of the inner and outer cutters and then cut it with the next blades. In contrast thereto, the upright member in Applicant's invention is to prevent skin from entering the corner of an outer cutter and thus touching the inner cutter.

In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Satoh et al. does not disclose each and every element of Applicant's invention as claimed by claims 1-5 and 9/1-5 and claims 1-5 and 9/1-5 are not anticipated by Satoh et al.

The Examiner has further rejected claims 6 and 9/6 under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Satoh et al. in view of Tietjens et al., stating that Satoh et al. teaches all of the claimed

invention except for the outer and inner cutters being disposed to be raised and lowered with respect to the cutter frame; Tietjens et al. teaches the outer and inner cutters can be disposed to be raised with respect to the cutter frame; and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Satoh et al. in view of the teachings of Tietjens et al.

In reply thereto, Applicant would like to incorporate by reference his comments above concerning Applicant's invention and Satoh et al. and respectfully submit that neither Satoh et al. nor Tietjens et al. discloses a non-rotating upright member such as in Applicant's invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Satoh et al. and Tietjens et al. is not Applicant's invention as claimed by claims 6 and 9/6 and these claims are not obvious thereover.

The Examiner has indicated that claim 7 contains allowable subject matter and Applicant has written claim 7 into independent form and respectfully submits that claim 7 is now in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

Respectfully submitted,

KODA & ANDROLIA


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

June 23, 2006

Date of Deposit

William L. Androlia

Name

6/23/2006

Signature

Date